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brothers regards, wishes*
ELECTRICITY AND GALVANISM *C.B.B.*

MECHANICALLY AND MEDICINALLY APPLIED,

IN THE

REMOVAL OF DISEASES,

**ARISING FROM A WANT OF MUSCULAR POWER, OR
ENERGY; AND OF A CORRESPONDING
NERVOUS TONE.**

Tu tna fac curas cætera mitte Deo,
Take care to do your duty and leave the rest to God.

22933
Be. 116101
CLEMENT B. BARRETT, M.D. *C*

**INVENTOR AND PATENTEE OF THE "ELECTRO-GALVANOMETER" AND
"FEMALE GUARDIAN."**

NEW-YORK:

PATHFINDER OFFICE, 205 BROADWAY.

1848.

DR. C. B. BARRETT'S FEVER AND AGUE PILLS
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INTRODUCTION.

WHEN, a few years since, it was announced that a discovery had been made, in Electricity and Galvanism, by which it could be put under the control of the merest child, or used by any one in the removal of certain diseases—of a nervous and inflammatory character—without the individual having previously acquired the slightest knowledge of either the Anatomy of the body or the laws which govern health, and repel disease,—the announcement was received with distrust and suspicion. But a few months, however, had elapsed after this declaration, when another, still more startling, was made, viz : That not only could Electricity and Galvanism relieve diseases of a nervous and inflammatory character, but, that the disease itself, and its exact locality, could instantly be detected with the most unerring precision and certainty ; and that to the entire and perfect satisfaction of the patient ; to both, to the operator and the individual, at one and the same moment ; and that, as we before have said, without the operator having the slightest knowledge of either Anatomy, Physiology, or Materia Medica !!! This announcement was instantly condemned as the very quintessence of humbuggery and empiricism—because what was not understood—what did not seem probable—without even taking the trouble to see if it was possible—was stamped instantly with the cognomen of quackery, and its devotees with the corresponding appellation of quacks.

Notwithstanding, however, all these disadvantages, the subject took deep and strong hold on the mass of the community. Their minds became exercised ; thought rapidly

engendered thought, and there was no lack of either operators or subjects to test the truthfulness of these declarations. At this moment, also, the most eminent of the medical faculty—men who had ever distinguished themselves in every laudable manner, by their influence and name, to discover a remedy which should not only lessen disease and alleviate pain and suffering, but in strong and silent language, point out to them the *extent* of that disease, and its character. To the honor of the profession be it known, that with scarcely an exception, in the discovery now made, they have not only given it their countenance and support, and lent it a helping hand, by their scientific investigations, and philosophic minds, but it has been carried with them in their private and public practice, thus daily exemplifying its truth and importance. At this very moment the Hospitals of Europe are supplied, not merely with *an* instrument, but *one* is *provided for each ward* ; and American philanthropy and benevolence is by no means behind her transatlantic brethren ; for similar and equally beneficial measures, by these mysterious agents, have been adopted in the Hospitals of New York, Philadelphia and Boston, and in those of the South and West. The benefit of this discovery is daily manifesting itself.

Diseases under which, heretofore, and for years, at stated periods, and under certain conditions of the body, made their regular appearance, exhausting the powers and energies of the sufferer, have almost instantaneously vanished, on the application of the galvanic Electro-Galvanometer to the part affected.

Electricity and Galvanism, in common with many of the popular sciences of the day, some of its friends have, in the fulness of their partiality and under the excitement of party zeal, and of the inflictions of slander and ridicule, caressed it almost to death. But in our researches after truth, and in our adoption of *facts* as true, it will ever be found a prudent rule of action to receive facts, when given on such authority as we cannot, on a fair and impartial estimate, refuse to receive on any and on every other subject. True it is, that we have very un-

wisely, (because the principle cannot be carried out in other matters) allowed ourselves to deny truths, merely because we did not understand them; and because we did not understand the laws by which they were revealed. They have appeared contrary to our ideas of the known laws of nature, and having set ourselves up, as the very Priests of Nature, and concluding there were no other rules by which she performed her offices, but those we knew, we have presumptuously taken upon ourselves the right of deciding that this fact, or that fact, could not exist, because, forsooth, it *was contrary to the laws of nature!*

Who is there, in this day of light and reformation, that would dare risk his reputation on the assertion that he understood all the laws of nature? Would you, reader? Would your neighbor or friend? I trow not. True, we may have learned by observation, or otherwise, some of them, as we do the discs on the surface of the sun, or a few of the other worlds which we behold, delightfully as brilliants in the firmament; but then, does it follow there are no lands, nor seas, or that there are not many bright and beautiful worlds, far, far away beyond our ocular Vision assisted by all the means of improving it, by taking advantage of the refractions and reflections of light? The truth is, that there are men who dislike to come forward and candidly avow that there are *some things* in the world which *they* do not *understand*. There are men, (and they are generally the least gifted in intellect,) who would have the world believe there was nothing left in nature, which their intellect had not scanned, encompassed and mastered. Such men are the drones in the hives of industry and intellect,

“Like beasts they live,
Like beasts they die,” &c.

Healthy and disordered function and condition make up the sum of the phenomena of Life, Health and Disease. Causes precede morbid action, whether of excess or default. This morbid action again becomes the cause of

new phenomena, which again are the causes of others, and so on, making up a chain of phenomena consisting of successive cause and effect.

Morbid action, whether it be of excess or default, *cannot be without cause*, either active or passive, or both. The causes in such cases are a defect of material physical powers, of a nature disproportioned to the effect of physiological condition and function.

So far, then, as *action* itself is concerned, as a cause, Electricity and Galvanism, with their sedative and exciting powers, seem to be suitable to the end of *changing* that action, *whenever it is properly manipulated*, and so far as material physical powers present in the system may be concerned, *action* is the means *whereby alone they can possibly be removed*. In the language of another, "Disease can only affect the body through one or more of the various modifications of nervous perceptions. *No disease can arise independent of this. No disease can be cured without it.* Through the same medium, and in the same manner, do the greater number of our remedial forces exert their salutary influences on the human frame; and whether for good or for evil, *all the forces of nature act simply by attraction and repulsion.*"

Many individuals, and some of them in other matters of a strong nerve, and vigorous conception, have, when brought in contact with a Galvanic instrument, even if only within sight of it, manifested symptoms of so much fear and alarm as to render all attempts to convey an idea of its use and purposes perfectly futile and fruitless. Nor can any persuasions of its utility in the removal of disease be impressed on their minds. They are as unbelieving as a Mussulman, and it is rather a singular fact, that a perfectly healthy man or woman never manifests this dread. They can approach an Electrical-Machine or a Galvanic Pile, and not only be in contact with it, but make it, as it were, a familiar plaything; whilst a sickly man, or an unhealthy woman will, in many instances, at the mere sight of an Electro-Magnetic Machine, become nervously excited, and considerable time and effort is required

to allay their fears and restore their wonted composure. Now why is this? The answer is very plain. In the healthy person, the beautiful vermilion color of the blood has not lost its "roseate hue," the "iron of the blood" has lost none of its integrity—the "purple fluid" is pure, and gives out to each one of its numerous tributaries, of that same pure fountain, a sufficiency of that "living stream" which causes a healthy volition of muscular power and of nervous energy and perception. Not so with the sickly man, or unhealthy woman. The day but dawns, and they long for night, and the shades of evening scarcely begin to draw their mantle over the face of nature—bidding it, like a fond mother to her loved babe, take "sweet and quiet rest,"—ere they wish for day. A general disorganization has taken place—the blood has lost its iron—its Magnetic Power of Attraction towards the healthy tissues of the body are vitiated. Disease has made a "run on the bank" of life, and if relief is not speedily afforded, she will have to close her portals forever. There is a deficiency of Electricity, and *this is the cause of all disease*. The entire body has become, as it were, a non-conductor, and health can only be restored, and the hitherto dormant powers brought into lively action, by the attractive and repelling forces, elicited from the Electric and Galvanic currents.

In presenting this little book to the public, especial care has been taken that it should be understood by the great mass of the people. Understood by them, until they will *know, see, feel, and believe for themselves*, that they have the curative power, or the power of restoring health, in their own hands, in their own power—and within their own reach. It has been the aim of the author, that in putting this book before the public, the method of using the "Electro-Galvanometer" and the "Female Guardian," shall be clothed in such language as shall be intelligible to the minds of every one, and if the directions laid down are faithfully followed out, speedy relief will come to the unfortunate sufferer, and in the majority of cases, a perfect and total annihilation

of the disease. *Not much good can be anticipated, however, unless the patient has confidence—entire, full and free confidence—combined with perseverance, bearing in mind the fact, that the brain has a powerful influence over disease, either for weal or woe, for good or evil.*

DESCRIPTION.

THE Electro-Galvanometer consists of a quadruple coil, or double helices of coarse copper-wire, securely insulated, over which is wound six thousand feet of very fine copper-wire, and likewise securely insulated, leaving therein a small space, wherein is placed a bundle of soft iron wires, which, as soon as the piston or rod is introduced, becomes a very powerful magnet, and increases or decreases the power of the instrument in proportion to the extent of its insertion. "The current from the battery is made to pass through the inner helix, which is of coarse copper wire;" and by so doing it Magnetizes the iron rod or wires in the centre. The moment that magnetism is established in the iron an induced current is excited in the outer helix, by the agency of both these changes that are going on within it. While the battery current continues, and the iron remains magnetized, no electrical current is occasioned in the outer helix; but when the current is suspended or broken, the inner helix and the magnet again conspire to induce a momentary secondary current in the outer helix. The secondary current, induced when the battery circuit is first completed, is *not* intense enough to be available for medical purposes; but the current induced when the battery circuit is *broken*, is much more intense, and may always be relied on for its uses in the treatment and cure of diseases. To obtain the Electrical shocks in succession, it is only necessary to make and break the circuit with whatever rapidity may be required by the operator.

This is effected by means of the break-piece, over which the battery wire inserted in the *brass cup of the zinc cylinder*, is drawn by the individual operating. It will readily be seen that every time the wire leaps, or is drawn from tooth to tooth, the current is broken, and a shock is given to the individual holding the handles, which depends for its intensity and power to the depth of insertion of the iron rod or piston. Very brilliant sparks and scintillations will be observed at the same moment that the point of wire comes in contact with the rasp or break-piece on the top of the instrument. At one end of the machine is an electro magnet, to which is attached a revolving armature to distribute the power of the battery alternately, by means of a break-piece and hammer, to which is attached a brass column and octagonal girdle, with a screw, by which the amount and rate of motion may be changed.

Great care should be taken with this screw in not allowing it to be turned for amusement's sake, in order to give increased power, to gratify an idle and ignorant curiosity: as, by so doing, a very serious injury may result to the instrument. As a general rule, it never should be loaned, nor any one allowed to touch the spring, but the operator, proprietor of the instrument, or some one who understands it.

The two cups marked P. and N. are the positive and negative poles, to each of which a wire is inserted, and connected also with each of the handles. The wooden part may be held by the operator or patient without experiencing any shock. The two brass cups and binding screws in the base board, marked A. and B. are for the *Female Guardian alone*, and for which a separate treatise is given and *should be in the hands of the head of every family.*

Diseases peculiar to females, together with the first commencement of affected or diseased lungs, Dyspepsia, diseased and curved Spine, *vanish before this instrument like magic, and it has been called by eminent professional men, one of the greatest discoveries of the age.* The Galvanic Battery consists of a copper vessel, having a space around it enclosed with copper for the liquid, and within which is suspended a zinc cylinder, so arranged as not to be

in contact with the copper. Two brass cups and binding screws are fastened on to the zinc and copper vessels, to insert the connecting wires from the machine into the two brass cups that are *not lettered*. The liquid employed is Blue Vitriol (Sulphate of Copper), to be dissolved in hot water, about 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ ounces to a quart and left to *cool before using*. The liquid requires to be renewed when the acid is entirely taken up by the zinc, which will be known by there being no deposit on the zinc, after being immersed for some time, in which case the liquid is poured out and a new solution made, and the sediment thrown away. A brush made of wire points accompanies the instrument to clean the zinc. The brighter (cleaner) the zinc is kept the greater the power, other things being equal. The zinc cylinder should be left in the solution only while the application is made, as it soon becomes coated. The solution may remain in the copper vessel any time, if it is necessary, as it will not act upon it.

DIRECTIONS
FOR USING
THE ELECTRO-GALVANOMETER,
AND THE MODE OF APPLYING IT TO THE RELIEF AND
REMOVAL OF DISEASE.

IN using this instrument for the first time, it is always advisable to begin with a power that is barely perceptible, and not increase its strength until after the lapse of two or three minutes : and continue this mode until the patient is in receipt of a power of the Galvanic fluid sufficient to excite an agreeable sensation *only*, for when used beyond this, it is not only injurious to the patient then, but all his subsequent treatment will be impaired by the injudicious use of the instrument at its first onset, and by its still more injudicious manipulation.

In all cases, it will be well that the hands of the operator and patient, prior to commencing with the instrument, should be moistened by means of a piece of sponge with either Water, Milk and Water, Alcohol or Cologne. The two last are the best conductors, and especially Cologne-water. A moments reflection will convince any one of the necessity of this preliminary arrangement, from the fact, that a *dry* skin, and especially a *hard, horny* skin, are very bad conductors. To produce general influence on the system, the current may be passed conveniently through the body, by grasping the handles, previously moistened, in *both hands*. The *sensation* will be found stronger in one hand than the other. This is dependent, altogether, on the direction of the current.

The hand by which it leaves the system, will be found to be the most affected ; the current passing, or flowing, in the direction of the great sympathetic nerve, and by then branching off to its numerous tributaries, renders the patient sensible to the slightest modification of power. In the language of another, "It may be useful sometimes to operate with a knowledge of the direction of the current ; and this can, perhaps, be most easily obtained by observing the sensation. The *back* of the *neck* is a great nervous centre ; and, as a general rule, it may be well to allow the current to *enter* there, and flow in the course of the nerves, to the part of the body which may be selected as the place of exit." - In applying it to any *particular part* of the body, my practice, always, has been to insulate myself, by holding the wooden part of the handle, or handles, as I would were I holding a pen in the act of writing ; experience having taught me, that the larger the application of surface to any one point, the more beneficial will be the result. Hence, a small piece of very soft and fine sponge wound round, or fastened on the points or ends of the handles, and held in the manner described, and applied over a diseased surface, will be found admirably to answer the desired purpose ; or, the sponge previously moistened, may be passed through the wire only. The last two methods are the most delicate and eligible forms in which the Galvanic fluid can be administered.

In using the "Electro-Galvanometer," it is very important that the operator should understand what *kind* of a shock he is going to give his patient, for there is a vast amount of difference in the shocks employed, both as to *quality* and *quantity*. A shock may be given in quick and rapid succession, and so strong as to produce numbness and muscular contractions ; whilst, on the other hand, a shock may be given of so mild a nature, as not only to be agreeable, but that will mildly arouse and stimulate the system to new and healthy action. Of course all these varieties and gradations, are applicable to the different conditions of disease, and the intelligent operator will readily understand how to apply the instrument scientifically, that its results may be beneficial, re-

membering that the circulation is always increased in rapidity by all the forms of administration, and that this invariable rule should be adopted, viz: *to cause the galvanic current, from the Electro-Galvanometer, to pass from the nervous centre, to the surface of the body, near the organ to be acted upon.*

DISEASES SUCCESSFULLY TREATED

BY THE USE OF

THE ELECTRO - GALVANOMETER.

AMAUROSIS, OR DIMNESS OF VISION.

Apply the *positive* pole to the back of the neck and the other to the temples. Continue this treatment for four or five minutes and then apply both poles immediately over the eyes, on the *eye-lids*, under a moderate power, *increasing it gradually* according to circumstances.

APHONIA, OR LOSS OF VOICE.

Apply the positive pole, previously covered with a piece of soft sponge, on the surface, and near the middle of the throat, and the negative to each side of the throat, moistening the parts first with Cologne.

ASTHMA, OR PHTHISIC.

Apply the Female Guardian, *reversed*, putting the wires into the brass cups marked A and B, and into the cups on the Female Guardian. The Galvanic current instantly passes through the chest, causing it to expand, and relieves the loaded vessels, thereby giving immediate relief, and if applied daily, will, in a short time, permanently cure cases of long standing, provided, *there is no structural disease*.

I have had cases under my care where the patient was apparently strangling or suffocating by the disease, yet on the application of the Electro-Galvanometer to the Female Guardian, not fifteen minutes elapsed ere perfect relief was obtained.

ABSCESS.

Apply the poles on each side of the enlargement, for fifteen minutes daily, giving the parts some six or eight shocks by means of the Rasp on the top of the instrument. Five or six applications will be found sufficient to act effectually on the absorbents.

ATROPHIA, OR NERVOUS CONSUMPTION.

Apply the Female Guardian, *reversed*, under a moderate power of the instrument, for fifteen minutes, daily, taking care that the Guardian covers the surface of the Lungs.

AMMENORRHEA.

Refer to my treatise which accompanies the "Female Guardian."

BRONCHITIS.

Dip a narrow piece of cloth suitable to pass round the neck, and not more than two-folds in thickness, previously immerse in Cologne-water, and into this fasten by means of a few stitches, the wires from the positive and negative poles. Continue this treatment daily for fifteen minutes, using precaution in diet and avoiding exposure to cold. Seldom more than fifteen or twenty sittings will be necessary; and if in its early formation, two or three sittings will alone effectually eradicate the disease.

BLINDNESS

FROM TEMPORARY INFLAMMATION, OR PARALYSIS OF
THE IRIS.

Apply the positive pole to the right eye, and negative to the left, covering each eye previously with a fine piece of soft sponge, moistened with a little milk and water. After the lapse of five minutes, remove the poles or handles, and apply them behind each ear. Showering with cold water from a fountain, like that of Dr. Pow-

ell's, of 261 Broadway, would be an admirable adjuvant. The expense of such an instrument is but trifling indeed, compared to the comfort and benefit to be derived from it.

BRONCHOCELE, OR GOITRE.

Apply the Electro-Galvanometer the same as for Bronchitis.

BRAIN, CONGESTION AND CONCUSSION.

Pass a strong current on each side of the spine, alternating the treatment with quick and powerful shocks. Be very careful in your manipulations how you touch the brain. A want of care in this respect may produce serious results, and *increase* the disease instead of *lessening* it. My practice has been, after subjecting the whole column of the spine to the Galvanic current, to allow a rest, or intermission of fifteen minutes. I then take a piece of thin linen cloth, well saturated with a strong solution of salt and water, (ice-water if it can be obtained) and cover the entire head with it. (The head of course is either shaved or the hair cut very close.) I now pass shocks, *through* the head, *beginning very moderately, and gradually increasing them*. In this way the electric fluid stimulates the brain, oppressed as it is by unoxxygenated blood, and causes a reaction slowly but surely, along its hitherto loaded and turgid vessels.

CHORÆA, OR ST. VITUS'S DANCE.

Place the positive pole on the right side of the head, near the neck, and the left on the muscles of the hip, changing the poles in ten minutes, and conclude the sitting by passing electrical shocks from the spine to the base of the neck, and vice versa.

CATARACT

IN ITS EARLY FORMATION.

The treatment of organic diseases of the eye, by Galvanism, or Electricity, should be referred always to the hand of a skilful surgeon. I have performed the operation three times, and I believe up to the date of this, I am the first Electropathist in the United States that successfully employed the use of Galvanism and Electricity in the removal and final cure of Cataract of the Human Eye. The first case on which I attempted the removal of Cataract was in the person of Mr. James Garland, aged thirty-six years, and a resident of the city of Montreal, Canada West. Mr. Garland was transacting some business in the city of Bangor last May, 1847, and hearing of my treatment of diseases by Galvanism and Electricity, he waited upon me to ascertain whether there was any hope for him. The application was *mutually novel*, both on the part of the patient and myself, and although I had never performed the operation, I saw no reason why that Galvanism and Electricity, acting as it does on the *absorbents*, should not be successfully used in the removal of internal opacities of the eye, such as those of the crystalline lens, &c. I determined at once on the operation, after repeated solicitations on the part of Mr. G., to "make the attempt, even if I should not succeed," as no ill effects could result from its use, if after all it should prove a failure. Here, then, was a novel but deeply interesting experiment. A capsular-lenticular Cataract of the left eye, and to be removed by Galvanism.

May 28th, 1847. I first applied the Galvanic current. In less than two minutes there was a breaking up of the internal canthus—an excavation immediately following, with an expansion and protrusion of the Cataract. The complaint of the patient during this operation, which lasted barely two minutes, was, that "he felt as if his head was in a vice." Inflammatory action, as a necessary consequence, immediately followed, accompanied with intolerance of light, which continued for some time. Di-

rected a stream of cold water from a small eye syringe to be applied through the day ; to diet himself with a moderate but generous diet, and occasionally take a mild aperient, such as a siedlitz powder, or a little salts and senna.

June 10th to 18th. Daily repeated the application of Galvanism. Vision improving fast. Dilatation of the pupil by belladonna, exhibited a few ragged fragments of the Cataract still remaining. This was easily and readily removed by the needle, to which was attached a very fine wire, connecting it to my Electro-Galvanometer whilst the other pole was alternately inserted in the nape of the patient's neck and inside his mouth. No unpleasant consequences ensued ; the pupil instantly assumed its beautiful jet black appearance and the vision was perfectly restored, and has remained so ever since.

CHLOROSIS, OR GREEN SICKNESS.

See my work which accompanies the "Female Guardian."

CURVATURE OF THE SPINE.

Apply the positive pole to the paralyzed muscles with a moderate power for the *first* sitting, afterwards cause a tension of the muscles, by letting the patient be stretched over the side of a chair, with suitable pillows, &c. Apply the Battery with its full power, alternating the poles on the paralyzed muscles. In proportion as the action of the paralyzed muscles becomes increased, the power of the Battery must be reduced. One month's faithful work in this manner will reward the patients for their perseverance.

CRAMP.

Pass a Galvanic current of considerable strength through the part affected, then alternate the treatment by shocks. Five minutes of judicious manipulation will relieve the severest case.

COLIC.

Treatment same as cramp.

COLDNESS OF FEET AND HANDS.

For the *feet*, immerse them in blood-warm water, and introduce one handle to each foot-tub. For the *hands*, immerse them in separate bowls of warm water, and insert the handles as for the feet. Fifteen minutes for the whole is long enough.

CONTRACTION OF MUSCLES.

Treat the same as Curvature of the Spine. -

DEPRESSION OF SPIRITS.

Allow a moderate power of the fluid to circulate through the system, alternating it with slight shocks.

DEAFNESS.

Pass a current of very moderate power from the positive pole to the part, or ear affected, and with the negative pole pass it to the Spine, and into the patient's hand, occasionally giving the ear affected a few slight shocks to rouse up the auditory nerve. I keep the ear moistened with one or two drops of cod-liver oil, on a piece of cotton, and keep it in the ear all the time. Morning and evening syringe the ear with a *glass syringe* filled with tepid milk and water.

DYSMENNORRHŒA, OR PAINFUL MENSTRUATION.

See my treatise which accompanies the "Female Guardian."

DYSPEPSIA.

Apply the Female Guardian *reversed*. Nothing will afford such *sure* and *permanent* relief; attending at the same time to diet and cold bathing. I usually employ at the same time the application of both poles on each side of the spinal column.

DISEASED SPINE.

Treatment same as *Curvature of "Spine*.

EPILEPSY.

Pass a strong current,—the positive pole being placed on each side of the first joint of the neck. Apply this for five or ten minutes, and then change it by placing the points of both poles on each side of the temples. Have the patient immersed in a *slipper* bath with both handles inserted under *full power* of the instrument.

GOUT.

Treatment the same as for Cold Feet.

HEMIPLEGIA, OR HALF-PARALYSIS.

Same as Palsy or Paralysis.

HEADACHE,—NERVOUS OR SICK.

Apply a strong current on each side of the spinal column. Reverse the power moderately and apply it to the temples, followed by a galvanic foot-bath.

INCONTINENCY OF URINE.

Apply the Female Guardian immediately over the surface of the kidneys.

LEUCORRHŒA, FLUOR ALBUS, OR THE WHITES.

See the treatise which accompanies the Female Guardian.

LUMBAGO.

Treat the same as Incontinence of Urine.

LOSS OF MUSCULAR TONE OR POWER.

Treatment consists in the free application of the Electrical and Galvanic Current, and in the daily use of an Electric bath.

MENSTRUATION,—DIFFICULT, SUSPENDED, PAINFUL, OR PARTIAL.

See the treatise on Female Diseases which accompanies the Guardian.

NERVOUS DISEASES OF EVERY GRADE, AND NUMBNESS.

Treatment same as that for the loss of Muscular Tone or Power.

PALSY AND PARALYSIS.

These sad diseases will be found to take their origin in most cases, in a want of healthy action of the delicate

tissue of nerves, of the *Cerebellum* and the *Medulla Oblongata*. In some also it arises from a general disordered condition of the nerves. One day feeling a *numbness*, accompanied with an indescribable sensation in the slightest act of volition; the next, a sensitiveness to the touch amounting to acute pain and great nervous irritability. There are various *degrees* or varieties of Paralysis in which the Electro-Galvanic Current will be found to act with *benefit* and *permanency*, and I cannot do better than quote from the official report of Dr. Golding Bird, assistant physician to Guy's Hospital, London. Dr. Bird has done more to remove the prejudices of "Old School men," and compel them to think and act for themselves, according to the dictates of common sense, than any other physician either in this country or England.

1. *Cases of partial paralysis, resulting from congestion or other cerebral mischief, admitting of successful treatment. The congestion or effusion is removed, but a more or less palsied state of some part of the body remains.*

"Cases of this kind are common enough; and although the paralysis, in general, slowly disappears with the cause of this cerebral disorder, still the axiom of 'sublatâ causâ, tollitur effectus,' does not always apply. Every now and then, although the blow has ceased, the bruise (if the expression be permitted,) remains. Time, friction, change of air, restoration of the general health, strychnia, &c., will, after all, succeed; but when with improved general health, the stimulus of the electro-magnetic current be employed, success is much more general and certain. All that is required here, is to apply one of the conductors, covered with wet linen, over the trunk of the largest nerve of the part affected, and to pass the other, similarly covered with linen, over the region of the palsied muscle, so as to keep them actively contracting for some minutes. In recent cases, a single application will often succeed; in more chronic ones, the remedy may be continued for weeks, until the paralysis disappears. One of the first cases in which I used this remedy, occurred about nine years ago, in a gentleman holding a prominent position at the bar. I saw him with Mr. Freeman, of Spring Gardens, under whose care he was. This gentleman had palsy of the left side of the face, the relic of an hemiplegic attack following cerebral congestion, the result of intense study and anxiety. His cerebral disease had been cured, his general health restored, but the paralyzed nerves of the face alone refused to resume their functions. The

electro-magnetic current was applied daily, the patient's footman being the 'medical electrician,' and in a few weeks he quite recovered.

2. *Paralysis of muscles supplied by the portio dura following exposure to cold.*

"This form of local paralysis, independent of cerebral mischief, generally yields readily to treatment. Cases however, occur, in which the nerve remains inactive, and the patient walks about for a long time with a distorted face. The electro-magnetic current is here of great value. I have seen many cases of this kind: one to which I was recently called resulted from exposure of the left cheek of a lady for some hours to a current of air from a broken window. She recovered readily from the accompanying bronchitis, but was left with her features distorted, being drawn to the right side. I at once suggested the current from the apparatus; her maid-servant was the operator, and cured her mistress in a week.

3. *Local paralysis involving the whole or part of a limb from exposure to cold.*

"This variety resembles the last, and is probably of a rheumatic character; although, it must be confessed, it is often a difficult task to define the line separating rheumatic from some paralytic affections. The following is one of many I have seen:—The actuary of one of the large assurance offices consulted me, with nearly complete paralysis of motion of the left arm, sensation being pretty perfect; no pain whatever in moving the limb. During a cold winter, he had been in the habit of sitting at his desk, with the right side of his body roasting by a large fire, whilst the left was chilled by blasts of cold air from a frequently opened door. Gradually, pain and stiffness appeared in the left arm, but no swelling. The pain gradually vanished, and the limb was left palsied. Other remedies proving useless, the electro-magnetic current was applied. I ordered a conductor to be placed over the lower cervical spinal region, to influence the origin of the axillary plexus, the other being passed down the arm. After a few weeks he quite recovered. This gentleman was his own operator: he fastened the spinal conductor in its place by his neckcloth, and thus had the right hand at liberty to apply the other.

4. *Paralysis affecting one side of the body, or a single limb, the result of exhaustion.*

"These cases are not unfrequent, and before their nature was understood, they used to be fearfully mismanaged, the paralysis being looked to, rather than the cause producing it, and depletion and mercury employed, when nutritious food and stimulants were really indicated. It often happens that these cases are

directly traceable to an obvious cause, and then the diagnosis becomes easy. The insidious exhaustion and enervation produced by excessive lactation is a not an unfrequent cause. I saw a well marked case of this kind, five or six years ago, in a patient under the care of a most excellent and talented practitioner, Mr. Pretty, now residing in Mornington road. This lady, a person of weak frame and strumous diathesis, had become exhausted by nursing her third infant, and the left arm became gradually palsied as far as motion was concerned. A generous diet, weaning the child, and the electro-magnetic current, were ordered. I had lost sight of this lady until a few days ago, when I was called to see her sinking from phthisis. I then learnt that, under the treatment suggested, the paralysis had soon disappeared.

"Paralysis, from enervation, has occasionally followed sudden loss of blood at flooding labours. I have witnessed complete hemiplegia as the result. A case of this kind I once saw with my friend, Mr. Law, of Finsbury, who had most properly treated the poor lady with generous diet and iron, under which she did well. When under this treatment, in spite of the restoration of the general health, paralysis remains, the electro-magnetic stimulus promises, from what I have seen, to be of much service.

5. *Cases of rheumatic paraplegia.*

"To this category I refer cases of rheumatism, affecting chiefly the lower extremities, the pain and acute action disappearing, while more or less complete paraplegia remains. In these cases, I have seen the greatest benefit result from electro-magnetism, as well as from ordinary electricity. I have witnessed so many of these cases thus treated do well, that I can speak with great confidence of its influence. One case will suffice as an example. A man came last summer into Luke's ward, at Guy's, under my care, with complete paralysis of motion of the lower extremities. He was totally unable to move his feet or knees, and was carried into the ward. This state of things had followed the dashing of ice-cold water on his legs and thighs, whilst sweating profusely. But little medicine was ordered for the man, and in less than three weeks, he, under the use of electro-magnetism, walked about the ward, aided by one crutch and his stick. In these cases, one conductor should be firmly pressed against the sacrum, whilst the other is placed in a basin of salt and water, in which the feet are immersed.

PALPITATION OF THE HEART.

Place the positive pole on a piece of soft sponge, previously moistened with Alcohol or Cologne, over the heart, and the negative pole opposite to it on the Spine. Continue this treatment for three or four sittings, at pe-

riods varying from ten to twenty minutes. After this let the patient take an Electric Bath, and on coming out of the bath, apply both poles with pieces of sponge, attached to each side of the Spine, its entire length. Friction with a crash towel may, at times, be advantageously used. Every thing of an exciting nature must be scrupulously avoided, and the strictest attention paid to the temperature of the body, and the diet of the patient.

PLEURISY.

Apply the Female Guardian over the entire surface of the Lungs, and give the patient a warm bath, with a pound of Rock Salt, dissolved, (or salt water where it can be obtained) and insert the poles of the Electro-Galvanometer under as strong a power as the patient can bear.

PROLAPSUS UTERI AND PROCIDENTIA OF THE UTERUS.

Refer to my treatise on the Diseases of Females, accompanying the Female Guardian.

RHEUMATISM AND RHEUMATIC AFFECTIONS, WHETHER ACUTE OR CHRONIC.

Treatment the same as that of Pleurisy.

SCIATICA.

Treatment the same as that of Loss of Muscular Tone or Power.

SCROFULA.

Almost every form and variety of Scrofula may be cured, or decidedly benefited, by the alternate use of the

Electric, and Sulphur or Medicated Vapor Baths, and general use of the Electro-Galvanometer. As a beverage and mild aperient, a simple preparation of Sarsaparilla, combined with a seidlitz powder, will be all that will be necessary.

TIC-DOLOREUX.

Apply the positive pole to the part affected, and the negative to the nape of the neck, alternating it with frequent shocks, and the Electric-Bath, morning and evening, at the temperature of 75° to 80°.

TREMENS—DELIRIUM.

Pass both poles down the Spine under a strong current. Immerse the patient in an Electrical-Bath (the temperature of the bath to be governed by the temperature of the body.) In half an hour afterwards let the hair be cut close to the head. Cover the head with a piece of thin linen cloth, previously moistened with a strong solution of Salt and Water. Apply the positive pole over every part of the head, keeping the negative pole stationary on the first vertebræ or joint of the neck. One hour of this treatment will be sufficient to break up any case of Delirium Tremens. As soon as reaction has taken place, let the patient take an anodyne, with a tea-cup full of strong wormwood tea. Rest and quiet, and abstinence from all primary exciting causes, will bring on a rapid convalescence.

UTERINE CONVULSIONS AND DEBILITY.

Refer to my Treatise, which accompanies the Female Guardian.

WITHERED AND DECAYED LIMBS.

Treatment same as Loss of Muscular Tone and Power.

WE have thus enumerated some of the principal diseases, which are amenable in their treatment to the laws of Electricity and Galvanism. There are many others of equally as serious a character, to which the mind of the Electropathist is daily directing itself; and the time is not far distant when the "wayfaring man, though a fool, may not err," for his path will be lighted up with the lamp of truth and science, giving to each man, woman and child, to eat of that bread and drink of that water which shall purify their minds from error and superstition, elevating them to their true character and standing, each one wisely using the talent God has given them for the welfare and well-being of his brother. In the language of another, "To study man aright, he must be considered, not as a machine, complete and perfect in itself, but as a being connected with external objects, and influenced by external causes," as a part, in short, of that creation of which it is happily said, that

"One common soul
Inspires, and feeds, and animates the whole."—DRYDEN.

This is the view which a philosopher must take of creation before he can comprehend its mysteries: this is the only means by which he will be enabled to penetrate into the secret recesses of Nature; and although the possession of the Promethean fire must ever be ranked with the impossibilities of the Elixir Vitæ, and Philosopher's Stone, yet Nature, viewed in this light, will open to us new themes for our admiration, new wonders for our amazement, and as the great scheme of creation becomes more unfolded to our view, we shall exclaim in the impassioned language of Byron—

"Are not the mountains, waves, and skies, a part
Of me, and of my soul, as I of them?"

CERTIFICATES

FROM MEDICAL MEN AND OTHERS.

THE following are a few among numerous extracts, in possession of the author, of private letters received from professional gentlemen who have used the Guardian, and who have had many and frequent opportunities of testing its efficacy, and to whom the author is permitted to refer.

From the late Issachar Snell, M.D., of Augusta, Me., an eminent Surgeon, and one of the oldest practitioners in the State.

"It is with pleasure I recommend your Female Guardian, for the relief of some of the most prominent diseases which woman is called to suffer. I have carefully and attentively examined it, and have given it a very thorough trial in some severe cases of Ammenorrhœa, Dysmennorrhœa, and in Prolapsus of the Uterus, (and they were very obstinate cases), and the result has been that I have succeeded in giving relief to those cases where the Guardian was applied, in a time far beyond the possibility of the like relief being afforded by the ordinary use of medicines. I consider your instrument a very valuable discovery. Its simplicity of construction, and adaptation to the various organs of the body, carries with it its own ingenuity. The head of every family will be in possession of one as soon as they learn its utility—as a child may use it with perfect success—and certainly no injury can possibly result from it, even to the most delicate or fastidious."

From Dr. Wm. Henry Barton, formerly a Teacher of Medicine, and Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology, in Montreal, Canada West.

"I have used your "Female Guardian" in some thirty cases, and most of them of an aggravated character, and am both

surprised and pleased with its beneficial results. I have given it to my friend and colleague, Dr. Gilbert, whose results are the same. I hope you will meet with a cordial reception from every member of the profession, for they are certainly much indebted to you for the discovery you have made, and the uses to which Electricity and Galvanism may be applied."

Extract of a letter from the Hon. David L. D. Garland, of Virginia.

"My family (and with them accept of my name,) feel very grateful to you for the service rendered them by your Guardian. Under no consideration would I part with it. Indeed we use it among ourselves when suffering from cold or debility of the lungs, thus making it answer a double purpose. Accept of our best wishes for your welfare."

Extract of a letter from R. C. Douglass, Esq., J. P. of Eastport, Me.

"Many thanks are due you for your kindness in allowing my daughter the use of your Guardian. From a long confinement to the house, loss of appetite and spirits, arising from irregularities of her periodical returns, health has again returned to her, and this without any other aid than that of Mrs. D. to adjust the instrument. Twenty-four hours brought on what months of family nursing and medical treatment failed to do. Again and again we thank you for your kindness, and wish you God speed in your laudable efforts to relieve suffering humanity."

Extract of a letter from the Rev. Jason Harvey Lee, late of Manchester, N. H., and now of Madison, Ohio.

"You remember the time when I saw you at Bangor, I believe in July last. I stated to you the condition of my eldest daughter, Marianna. You proffered me the use of an instrument you termed your Female Guardian. I believe I told you

that I had but little faith in the use of any remedies. I had tried magnetism in every shape and form. Galvanism also had been brought under my roof in the shape of Rings, Garters, Bracelets, Bands, Plasters, and so on, *ad infinitandum*, but still the object sought for was unobtained. At this period (last June) my eldest daughter, whose age is nineteen, had never passed a week for the last six years without being subject to two and sometimes three fits a week. As a natural consequence her mind became seriously affected, whilst her physical powers were nearly, if not wholly prostrated. Sea-bathing, exercise on horseback, travelling, change of society, all, all were tried, and tried faithfully in their turn, but without any effect. Up to this period, there had never been but once any appearance of her "Catamenia," (I believe that is the term applied by physicians to monthly suppressions.) On my return to my family in August, I stated to Mrs Lee the subject of my interview with you, and the remedy you proposed (as to use your own language,) "would be infallible." It was received by my wife and daughter with almost as much scepticism as it was by me. I had determined, however, to adopt a neutral line of conduct here. Before, I had always urged, begged, entreated, and pleaded, and then after a fair and honest trial of the means had been used, and a failure accompanied it, as it had always hitherto done, I was thrown back on my own reflections, which were by no means of a pleasing or cheering character. In the matter of applying your "Female Guardian," as you directed me in your letter, I determined to leave it altogether at the will and discretion of the mother and daughter. I gave them your letter, and related to them, as nearly as possible, a verbatim account as received from you, of its efficacy, &c. Several days elapsed after this without any allusion being made to you, or a trial of your instrument, until, on the third of last August, my wife informed me that she feared from the appearance of Marianna, that "she was going to have a very severe time of it." I instantly suggested the trial of your Guardian. My suggestions were on the point of being adopted, when I was alarmed by hearing a shriek, and my wife calling loudly for me to "come quick, for Marianna was dying." On my entering the room, I found my daughter in a very deplorable condition. She had fallen to the floor in a fit; she was frothing at the mouth; her tongue protruded, and was severely cut by her teeth. Her limbs were rigid and stiff, and her breathing of the most hurried and laborious character. Altogether, she presented the most pitiable and distressing appearance that can possibly be imagined. After some

little labor, we succeeded in fitting the Guardian, and instantly put it in connexion with a very poor Electro-Magnetic Machine. The whole power of our little instrument was applied ; nevertheless, weak as it was, its effects were wonderful. In less time than it takes me to write this, the muscles relaxed their rigidity, the breathing became more tranquil, consciousness gradually returned, and with it the absence of all those other frightful symptoms under which she was laboring but a few minutes before. Encouraged and truly grateful for the benefit derived from your instrument, at so critical a juncture, we determined on still following up your advice, and accordingly put her into an Electrical Bath, as you described to me in your kind letter. The effect of this was astonishing. Every pore in the system seemed to be opened by this novel mode of administering the Electric fluid. We allowed our patient to remain in the bath about ten minutes. She was by this time in a most profuse perspiration, something that had not visited her before for over two years, even in the hottest of our summer days. She was now put into her bed. In a few minutes she fell asleep and slept " as quiet as an infant " until day-break. After breakfast I went out to a neighbor of mine and borrowed from him his Electro-Magnetic Machine, which was new, and of considerable more power than mine, determined again to try the Guardian. On my way back to my house, I met our family physician, Dr. James Colton, to whom I stated the occurrences of last evening. Astonished and delighted, he determined on returning with me, and witnessing for himself the effects of the application of the Guardian. At 11 A. M., August 4, 1847, the Female Guardian was applied on my daughter by Dr. Colton, with only a moderate power, in the presence of my family and Esquire Jervis and his lady, both of whom were our near neighbors, and who had known the history of our daughter's case for the last seven years. In less than fifteen minutes after the application of the Guardian, Marianna complained of a sinking and pressure, and the next instant burst out crying and laughing at the same time, and exclaiming " Thank God, it is come ; I shall be well now—I shall be well now," &c., &c. On inquiry, we found that it was as she had said, the long-pent-up evacuations of Nature had been set free from their prison, where they had been " iron-bound," as it were, for many a long day, and our dear daughter had the prospect before her of returning health. I did not intend writing as much as I have when I first commenced, but I thought I could not do justice to my own feelings, did I say less than I have of the invaluable efficacy of your wonderful invention. A

period of nearly six months has elapsed since the first application of the Female Guardian to my daughter, during which time not the slightest irregularity has taken place; her fits have entirely left her; the color has again returned to her cheeks, and with it an increase daily of health. I feel it my duty to make known these facts to you ere I leave for the "far west," and they are at your disposal. To ask you to accept of a parent's gratitude and blessing for your kind assistance, is all I can offer you, except it be to add with it our united prayers for your health, happiness and prosperity, and that every blessing may attend you.

Truly yours, in sincerity,

JASON H. LEE,

Pastor of the Seventh Day Church.

To Dr. C. B. BARRETT, Hallowell, Me.

LOWELL, Mass.;

Nov. 1st, 1847.

"I have seen the letter which the Rev. Mr. Lee has addressed to Dr. Barrett, in relation to his daughter, and her application of Dr. Barrett's Female Guardian. I have been acquainted with Mr. Lee and his family for many years, and not only can I vouch for the correctness of that gentleman's statement with regard to his daughter, but I cheerfully give my own testimony of the almost miraculous effects of the "Guardian," after having exhausted every remedy for years back to produce what, in less than twenty-four hours, the Female Guardian kindly brought on, and I take this occasion of expressing my opinion that every physician and every family should possess themselves of so cheap, sure and valuable a remedy, as it is applicable as well in diseases of the Lungs, Chest, &c., &c, of the Male, as it is for the use of the Female.

"JAMES L. COLTON, M D."

Extract of a letter from a lady to Dr. B., whilst in Louisville, Kentucky.

"LOUISVILLE, October 27th, 1847.

"I thank you a thousand times for the loan of your Guardian. A few minutes application gave me entire relief from excessive pain, which I always suffer at those times.

"Yours truly,

S. W."

LETTER FROM
MR. DAVID C. MOORHEAD,
No. 182 BROADWAY.

" NEW-YORK, October 10th, 1847.

" MY DEAR SIR :

" I am not willing that you should leave for a distant part of our country, where your name and fame are perhaps unknown, without giving you a few lines expressive of the feelings of my friends and myself regarding the highly honorable work in which you have been so long and successfully engaged. To my knowledge you were the first to introduce the scientific practice of Galvanism in the Eastern States, some six years since ; the first who had the moral courage, from a conviction of right, to abjure the uncertain and often erroneous principles with which the old Medical Schools abound, and boldly to proclaim your advocacy of Galvanism; and practically to demonstrate its blessings and benefits. The hundreds whom your skilful exertions have relieved from protracted suffering, and raised from the couch of disease from which even hope had fled, are witnesses which speak " trumpet tongued " in your behalf, and no less in commendation of your favorite science. In visiting the West, at the solicitation of Mr. George D. Prentice, my own feelings can only express those of your numerous friends, who trust that your skill in his case, and whenever else it may be called, will meet with the same happy results which has so uniformly followed your professional career. With the best wishes for your health and success, believe me, my dear sir,

Very sincerely yours,

D. C. MOORHEAD.

CLEMENT B. BARRETT, M. D.,
Tremont House, New-York.

DESCRIPTION
OF THE
ELECTRO-GALVANOMETER,
FOR THE
TREATMENT OF DISEASES
OF A
NERVOUS AND INFLAMMATORY CHARACTER.

By C. B. BARRETT, M.D.

NEW-YORK:

1848.

